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ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

A Monthly Report by the **NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY**
Prepared in Coordination with the **UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS**

November 1988 | Wesley S. Noyes, Jr., Editor, Supervisor, Economic Analysis and Reports | (603)228-4124

November Unemployment Rate 2.5%, Up 0.2% from October; October Rate Lowest in Nation, Tied with Maine and Vermont

New Hampshire, following normally observed patterns, experienced a slight rise in the unemployment rate from October to November. Since 1983, only in 1985 did the unemployment rate drop from October to November. November's unemployment rate was 2.5 percent compared to 2.3 percent in October. General cause for the slight increase in the unemployment rate was the modest expansion in employment over the month (+1,070), while the civilian labor force expanded proportionately more (+2,310). Unemployment rose by 1,240 from October to November. Comparing month-to-month changes by labor market area, it should be noted that in seven of the areas, the labor force increased at the same time unemployment either increased less rapidly or decreased, indicating continued ability of the economy to absorb workers. In five areas unemployment either grew more than the labor force (as was the case in the Berlin and Littleton LMAs), increased while the labor force decreased (Laconia and the Portsmouth - Dover - Rochester NH-Me PMSA), or decreased less than the labor force decreased (as in the Nashua PMSA).

Since November 1987, the New Hampshire labor force has increased 18,730, while unemployment has risen 1,240. The unemployment rate in that month was 2.2 percent, 0.3 percentage points lower than currently. Compared with November 1986, the labor force has risen 47,140, with unemployment increasing only 1,030. The unemployment rate in November 1986 (2.5 percent) was the same as this month.

The New Hampshire unemployment rate in October (2.3 percent) was the lowest in the nation. New Hampshire tied with both of its northern New England neighbors, Maine and Vermont. Fourteen states registered October unemployment rates below 4.0 percent, with New England claiming the five lowest rates, and six of the eight lowest rates. The highest rate in new England was 3.0 percent in Connecticut; the highest rates in the nation were found in Louisiana, 9.5 percent in October, and in West Virginia, 8.8 percent.

The national not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for November was 5.2 percent, a rise from 5.0 percent in October, but a decline from 5.6 percent observed in November 1987. The United States civilian labor force was estimated to be 122,639,000 in November, an increase of 207,000 from October levels, and up 2,028,000 from twelve months earlier. Unemployment stood at 6,325,000 in November, up 143,000 since October, but down 477,000 from November 1987.

Employment Trends in New Hampshire

According to sample-based estimates, nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the state was virtually constant from October to November, declining by 300 workers. Manufacturing sector employment changes (+650) could not fully compensate for changes in nonmanufacturing employment (-950). Estimates for November in both years indicate an increase in nonagricultural employment of 24,750 workers, primarily in the nonmanufacturing sector (+22,000 versus +2,750 in manufacturing industries.)

The estimated decline over the month in nonmanufacturing industries (-950) is the result of continued drops in construction and services industries and less vigorous increases in trade and government employment. Construction industry employment declines (-1,250) were distributed among all types of construction, while services employment declines (-2,400) were spurred largely by declines in the lodging industry and other, scattered, services industries. Construction employment remains about 1,250 above a year earlier. However, U. S. Housing Markets, published by Lomas Mortgage USA, indicates that the Boston Consolidated Metropolitan Statistical Area (which contains parts of Hillsborough and Rockingham counties) experienced a significant drop in Third Quarter 1988 private housing permits compared to Third Quarter 1987 permits (-45.8 percent in total private housing permits; -30.7 percent in one-family housing permits; -61.5 percent in multifamily housing permits). Comparison of permits issued for the first three quarters of each year reveals a similar pattern (-30.4 percent in total housing permits; -23.3 percent in single family permits; -39.2 percent in multifamily permits). Declining permits will lead to fewer housing starts, which will ultimately lead to less construction employment. It is expected that residential housing construction employment will be affected, especially in southern and southeastern New Hampshire.

Nonmanufacturing increases in wholesale and retail trade industries over the month (+1,700) were widespread, al-

though slight drops were estimated for building materials stores, eating and drinking places, and automotive establishments. Government increases (+950) were due to local government establishments other than schools.

As mentioned above, estimates indicate an increase in nonagricultural wage and salary employment of 24,750 from November 1987 to November 1988. The 22,000 worker increase in the nonmanufacturing sector was widespread, with greatest additions in trade (+6,950), services (+6,700), and government (+5,550). The 2,750 worker increase in manufacturing was primarily accounted for by the durable goods sector (+2,350), within which the electrical products (+1,250), fabricated metal products (+650), and machinery (except electrical) (+400) industries are estimated to have provided the largest increases.

Unemployment Up Slightly in November

New Hampshire unemployment was estimated to be 15,320 in November. This was 1,240 more unemployed than in October and 2,240 more than a year earlier.

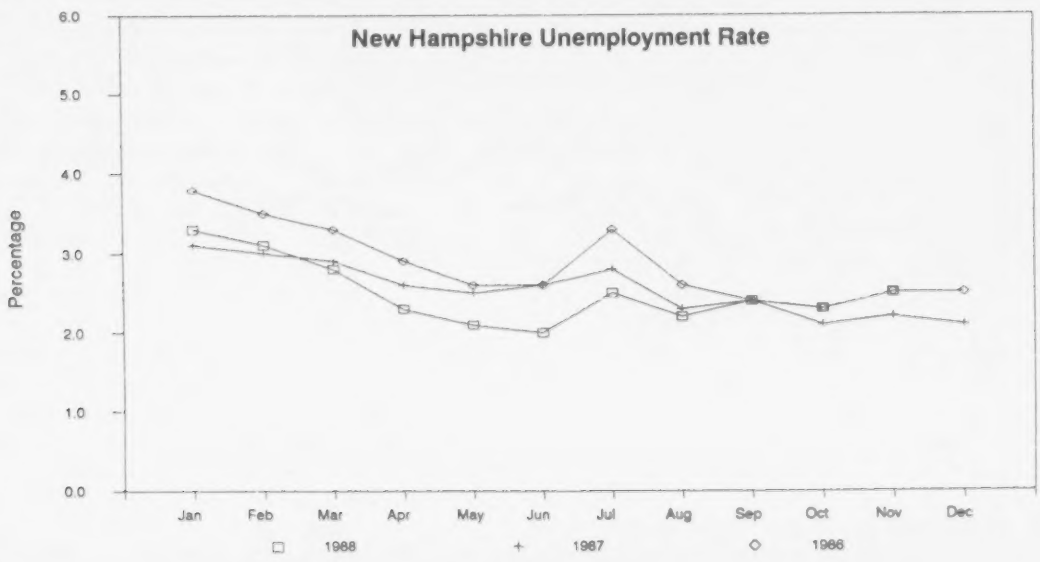
The lowest area unemployment rate in November was found in the Keene Labor Market Area (LMA) (1.4 percent), followed by the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester NH-Me Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) (1.7 percent) and Claremont LMA (1.8 percent). Highest rates were registered in the New Hampshire portions of the Lowell, Massachusetts Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area (PMSA), consisting of Pelham, (6.1 percent) and of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts PMSA, consisting of the Salem area, (4.4 percent). The Littleton LMA had the same unemployment rate as the New Hampshire portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill PMSA. Eight areas had higher unemployment rates in November than in October, one area registered a decrease, while three areas experienced no change in their unemployment rates. (For details, please see the table on page 3.) Nine areas have higher unemployment rates than a year earlier, one has a lower rate, while two are the same. The Berlin LMA is the only area with a lower rate, while the Keene LMA and the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester NH-Me MSA are unchanged.

Manufacturing Hours and Earnings Stable Over Month; Average Weekly Hours Drop from a Year Earlier

Average weekly earnings in manufacturing industries were about the same in November as in October. Overall, estimates of average hourly earnings between the two months differed by only $0.01, while average weekly hours remained the same (39.8 hours per week). In fact, average weekly earnings in November were almost identical to earnings in November 1987. However, average hourly earnings were estimated to be $0.40 per hour higher this November. Therefore, average weekly earnings remained stable due to the drop in average weekly hours from 41.5 to 39.8.

Average hourly earnings were estimated to be highest in the Food and Kindred Products industry ($11.80) in the nondurable goods sector followed by the Electrical Products industry ($10.99) in the durable goods sector. Average weekly earnings were highest in the Food and Kindred Products industry ($493.24) and in the Primary Metal Products industry ($468.99).

Note. Although monthly changes are included in this publication, it should be noted that these figures are not seasonally adjusted. Over-the-month comparisons may be affected by seasonal changes and thus could present misleading representation of underlying trends. To eliminate bias, it is more useful to compare any non-seasonally-adjusted statistic with that of twelve months earlier.



TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE BY AREA AND COUNTY

	UNEMPLOYMENT*								CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE				
	November 1988		October 1988		November 1987		Numerical Change From Previous:		November	October	November	Numerical Change From Previous:	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Month	Year	1988	1988	1987	Month	Year
United States**	6,325	5.2	6,182	5.0	6,802	5.6	143	(477)	122,639	122,432	120,611	207	2,028
New Hampshire	15,320	2.5	14,080	2.3	13,080	2.2	1,240	2,240	613,540	611,230	594,810	2,310	18,730
Berlin LMA	680	2.5	430	1.6	840	3.3	250	(160)	26,950	26,810	25,340	140	1,610
Claremont LMA	740	1.8	610	1.5	470	1.2	130	270	41,840	41,250	39,490	590	2,350
Concord LMA	1,330	2.4	1,060	1.9	950	1.8	270	380	56,310	55,050	53,610	1,260	2,700
Keene LMA	600	1.4	620	1.4	580	1.4	(20)	20	44,370	43,680	41,960	690	2,410
Laconia LMA	1,080	2.0	950	1.7	850	1.7	130	230	54,530	54,680	51,310	(150)	3,220
Littleton LMA	840	4.4	410	2.2	610	3.5	430	230	19,160	19,000	17,320	160	1,840
Manchester MSA	1,710	2.0	1,740	2.0	1,600	1.8	(30)	110	86,730	86,040	86,620	690	110
Nashua PMSA	3,060	3.1	3,120	3.1	2,360	2.4	(60)	700	100,200	100,980	99,800	(780)	400
NH portion Lawrence-Haverhill, Ma PMSA***	2,260	4.4	2,340	4.6	1,980	3.9	(80)	280	50,930	50,800	51,050	300	980
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester NH+ Me MSA	2,260	1.7	2,110	1.5	2,250	1.7	150	10	136,810	137,680	132,520	(870)	4,290
Unattached Estimating Area****	700	3.3	610	2.9	600	3.0	90	100	20,990	20,690	20,010	300	980
NH portion Lowell Ma PMSA	330	6.1	310	5.8	310	5.7	20	20	5,430	5,370	5,450	60	(20)
Counties													
Belknap	560	2.0	490	1.7	450	1.7	70	110	28,230	28,270	26,590	(40)	1,640
Carroll	420	2.2	260	1.4	310	1.7	160	110	19,110	19,030	17,860	80	1,250
Cheshire	560	1.4	570	1.5	530	1.4	(10)	30	39,610	38,980	37,440	630	2,170
Coos	770	3.6	460	2.2	870	4.4	310	(100)	21,290	21,110	19,920	180	1,370
Grafton	1,070	2.5	740	1.8	770	2.0	330	300	42,430	42,170	39,460	260	2,970
Hillsborough	4,970	2.6	4,990	2.7	4,120	2.2	(20)	850	188,250	188,010	186,900	240	1,350
Merrimack	1,410	2.1	1,130	1.7	1,090	1.7	280	320	66,580	65,440	63,680	1,140	2,900
Rockingham	4,040	3.2	4,080	3.2	3,690	3.0	(40)	350	125,960	126,070	124,070	(110)	1,890
Strafford	1,100	1.8	1,030	1.7	1,010	1.7	70	90	60,600	61,000	58,660	(400)	1,940
Sullivan	420	2.0	330	1.6	240	1.2	90	180	21,480	21,150	20,230	330	1,250

* *Based on the Bureau of Labor Statistics "43 Step Method" handbook adjusted to the Current Population Survey (CPS) estimates.*

** *In thousands, not seasonally adjusted.*

*** *New Hampshire Portion of the Lawrence-Haverhill, Massachusetts Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes Salem and twelve small towns.*

**** *Includes twenty towns previously in either Dover, Portsmouth, Manchester, or Nashua LMA's.*

NEW HAMPSHIRE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT AS OF THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH

	Number of Workers			Numerical Change * From Previous:	
	November 1988	October 1988	November 1987	Month	Year
Labor Force Data **					
1. CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	613,540	611,230	594,810	2,310	18,730
2. UNEMPLOYMENT	15,320	14,080	13,080	1,240	2,240
PERCENT OF LABOR FORCE	2.5	2.3	2.2	----	----
3. EMPLOYMENT TOTAL	598,220	597,150	581,730	1,070	16,490
4. PERSONS INVOLVED IN LABOR DISPUTES	0	0	0	0	0
Employment by Industry ***					
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT	547,350	547,650	522,600	(300)	24,750
MANUFACTURING	123,200	122,550	120,450	650	2,750
Durable Goods	86,850	86,250	84,500	600	2,350
Lumber and wood products	6,450	6,450	6,400	0	50
Furniture and fixtures	1,650	1,600	1,600	50	50
Stone and clay products	3,800	3,850	3,650	(50)	150
Primary metal products	4,450	4,500	4,450	(50)	0
Fabricated metal products	7,400	7,450	6,750	(50)	650
Machinery (except electrical)	26,750	26,450	26,350	300	400
Electrical products	25,000	24,600	23,750	400	1,250
Miscellaneous products	1,950	1,950	2,050	0	(100)
Other durable goods	9,400	9,400	9,500	0	(100)
Nondurable Goods	36,350	36,300	35,950	50	400
Food and kindred products	3,000	3,000	2,800	0	200
Textile mill products	3,700	3,700	3,800	0	(100)
Apparel	1,750	1,700	1,900	50	(150)
Paper and allied products	5,600	5,600	5,750	0	(150)
Printing, publishing, and allied	8,800	8,800	8,400	0	400
Leather and leather products	3,350	3,400	3,500	(50)	(150)
Other nondurable goods	10,150	10,100	9,800	50	350
NONMANUFACTURING	424,150	425,100	402,150	(950)	22,000
Construction (including mining)	40,800	42,050	39,550	(1,250)	1,250
Transportation, communication, and utilities	17,450	17,500	17,100	(50)	350
Trade	139,650	137,950	132,700	1,700	6,950
Finance, insurance, and real estate	33,700	33,600	32,500	100	1,200
Service industry and other	121,100	123,500	114,400	(2,400)	6,700
Government	71,450	70,500	65,900	950	5,550
Federal	8,900	8,750	8,500	150	400
State	18,450	19,000	17,500	(550)	950
Local	44,100	42,750	39,900	1,350	4,200
Persons involved in labor disputes (not included in Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment Total above)	0	0	0	0	0

** Numbers in parentheses indicate negative numbers*

*** By place of residence*

**** By place of establishment*

MSA LABOR FORCE, TOTAL EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT, AND NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT AS OF THE MIDDLE OF THE MONTH

	Manchester MSA					Nashua PMSA					Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA				
	Number of Workers			Numerical Change***		Number of Workers			Numerical Change***		Number of Workers			Numerical Change***	
	November 1988	October 1988	November 1987	From Previous: Month	Year	November 1988	October 1988	November 1987	From Previous: Month	Year	November 1988	October 1988	November 1987	From Previous: Month	Year
Labor Force Data*															
1. Civilian Labor Force	86,730	86,040	86,620	690	110	100,200	100,980	99,800	(780)	400	136,810	137,680	132,520	(870)	4,290
2. Unemployment	1,710	1,740	1,600	(30)	110	3,060	3,120	2,360	(60)	700	2,260	2,110	2,250	150	10
Percentage of Labor Force	2.0	2.0	1.8	----	----	3.1	3.1	2.4	----	----	1.7	1.5	1.7	----	----
3. Employment Total	85,020	84,300	85,020	720	0	97,140	97,860	97,440	(720)	(300)	134,550	135,570	130,270	(1,020)	4,280
4. Persons Involved in Labor Disputes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Employment by Industry**															
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT	88,550	87,750	87,300	800	1,250	96,650	96,000	95,200	650	1,450	117,100	117,400	110,950	(300)	6,150
MANUFACTURING	11,750	11,700	12,050	50	(300)	37,250	37,050	37,400	200	(150)	21,350	21,250	20,600	100	750
Durable Goods	7,200	7,100	7,450	100	(250)	31,250	31,000	31,200	250	50	13,550	13,550	13,000	0	550
Machinery and electrical products	4,050	4,000	4,200	50	(150)	23,750	23,500	23,550	250	200					
Other durable goods	3,150	3,100	3,250	50	(100)	7,500	7,500	7,650	0	(150)					
Nondurable Goods	4,550	4,600	4,600	(50)	(50)	6,000	6,050	6,200	(50)	(200)	7,800	7,700	7,600	100	200
Textile mill products	1,100	1,150	1,250	(50)	(150)										
Other nondurable goods	3,450	3,450	3,350	0	100										
NONMANUFACTURING	76,800	76,050	75,250	750	1,550	59,400	58,950	57,800	450	1,600	95,750	96,150	90,350	(400)	5,400
Construction (including mining)	6,500	6,650	6,400	(150)	100	5,750	5,600	5,600	150	150	6,050	6,650	6,400	(600)	(350)
Transportation, communication, and utilities	5,300	5,300	5,050	0	250	2,150	2,150	2,100	0	50	3,250	3,250	2,950	0	300
Trade	25,150	24,450	24,800	700	350	21,550	21,150	21,650	400	(100)	32,450	32,000	28,850	450	3,600
Finance, insurance, and real estate	8,400	8,350	8,750	50	(350)	4,050	4,100	4,000	(50)	50	6,800	6,750	6,650	50	150
Service industry & other	22,050	22,050	21,700	0	350	18,550	18,800	17,650	(250)	900	20,900	22,250	19,800	(1,350)	1,100
Government	9,400	9,250	8,550	150	850	7,350	7,150	6,800	200	550	26,300	25,250	25,700	1,050	600
Federal	2,750	2,700	2,700	50	50	950	950	850	0	100	11,050	10,500	10,450	550	600
State	1,050	1,050	850	0	200	250	250	250	0	0	4,700	4,650	5,600	50	(900)
Local	5,600	5,500	5,000	100	600	6,150	5,950	5,700	200	450	10,550	10,100	9,650	450	900
Persons involved in labor disputes (not included in Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment above)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

** By place of residence*
*** By place of establishment*
**** Numbers in parentheses indicate negative numbers*

Manchester MSA – includes the city of Manchester and the towns of Allenstown, Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Goffstown, and Hooksett.
Nashua PMSA – includes the city of Nashua and the towns of Amherst, Brookline, Hollis, Hudson, Litchfield, Londonderry, Merrimack, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Wilton.
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA – includes the New Hampshire cities of Dover, Portsmouth, Rochester, and Somersworth; the New Hampshire towns of Barrington, Durham, Exeter, Farmington, Greenland, Hampton, Lee, Madbury, Milton, New Castle, Newfields, Newington, Newmarket, North Hampton, Rollinsford, Rye, and Stratham; and the Maine towns of Berwick, Eliot, Kittery, North Berwick, Ogunquit, South Berwick, Wells, and York.

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987
All Manufacturing	$394.42	$394.82	$394.67	39.8	39.8	41.5	$9.91	$9.92	$9.51
Durable goods	401.54	401.98	399.37	39.6	39.8	41.3	10.14	10.10	9.67
Lumber and wood products	331.74	342.24	314.31	37.4	37.9	38.9	8.87	9.03	8.08
Furniture and fixtures	313.94	321.39	332.00	41.2	42.4	41.5	7.62	7.58	8.00
Stone and clay products	386.97	390.27	386.36	42.2	42.1	42.6	9.17	9.27	8.60
Primary metal products	468.99	444.15	418.56	45.8	45.0	43.6	10.24	9.87	9.60
Fabricated metal products	412.27	425.27	407.55	40.9	42.4	42.9	10.08	10.03	9.50
Machinery (except electrical)	438.04	439.38	439.46	42.2	42.7	44.3	10.38	10.29	9.92
Electrical products	390.15	388.69	412.38	35.5	35.4	39.2	10.99	10.98	10.52
Miscellaneous products	353.42	363.26	300.96	41.0	39.7	36.0	8.62	9.15	8.36
Other durable goods	398.19	389.27	384.71	40.1	39.4	40.2	9.93	9.88	9.57
Nondurable goods	380.16	378.50	384.22	40.4	39.8	41.9	9.41	9.51	9.17
Food and kindred products	493.24	475.55	512.31	41.8	38.6	42.2	11.80	12.32	12.14
Textile mill products	327.49	330.91	318.53	39.6	39.3	41.1	8.27	8.42	7.75
Apparel	265.34	257.02	248.16	38.4	36.2	37.6	6.91	7.10	6.60
Paper and allied products	450.26	444.79	535.19	43.8	42.2	49.1	10.28	10.54	10.90
Printing, publishing, and allied	408.96	400.78	383.90	38.4	39.1	39.7	10.65	10.25	9.67
Leather and leather products	215.41	219.21	201.56	34.8	35.3	35.3	6.19	6.21	5.71
Footwear	217.62	219.21	204.20	35.1	35.3	35.7	6.20	6.21	5.72
Other nondurable goods	398.23	403.92	402.38	42.5	41.9	43.5	9.37	9.64	9.25

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 39.2%

Total Production Workers: 83,100

Firms Reporting: 272

Manchester MSA

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987
All Manufacturing	$401.09	$395.61	$392.45	39.4	38.9	40.5	$10.18	$10.17	$9.69
Durable goods	397.50	397.28	403.12	37.5	37.8	39.1	10.60	10.51	10.31
Machinery and electrical products	422.08	418.94	414.22	39.3	39.3	39.6	10.74	10.66	10.46
Other durable goods	366.08	369.41	388.61	35.2	35.9	38.4	10.40	10.29	10.12
Nondurable goods	407.79	391.38	374.07	42.7	40.6	42.8	6.55	9.64	8.74
Textiles and apparel	351.11	351.37	304.04	41.7	41.0	39.9	8.42	8.57	7.62
Other nondurable goods	426.56	405.81	402.60	43.0	40.5	44.0	9.92	10.02	9.15

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 51.9%

Total Production Workers: 8,950

Firms Reporting: 36

Nashua PMSA

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987
All Manufacturing	$492.00	$499.20	$482.47	40.0	40.0	41.7	$12.30	$12.48	$11.57
Durable goods	501.36	511.15	486.36	40.4	40.6	42.0	12.41	12.59	11.58
Machinery and electrical products	537.23	546.07	520.83	39.3	40.3	41.8	13.67	13.55	12.46
Other durable goods	428.14	435.66	406.50	42.9	41.1	42.3	9.98	10.60	9.61
Nondurable goods	452.67	451.58	471.65	38.2	37.6	40.8	11.85	12.01	11.56

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 32.1%

Total Production Workers: 19,550

Firms Reporting: 46

Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987	Nov 1988	Oct 1988	Nov 1987
All Manufacturing	$393.21	$380.07	$370.96	42.1	41.0	40.9	$9.34	$9.27	$9.07
Durable goods	434.45	413.92	388.90	43.1	41.6	40.3	10.08	9.95	9.65
Nondurable goods	324.01	322.79	342.30	40.4	39.9	42.0	8.02	8.09	8.15

Sample Percent of Production Workers: 41.4%

Total Production Workers: 14,900

Firms Reporting: 30

New Hampshire Labor Supply and Demand

There were 10,177 active applicants in all local offices for November, which was an eleven percent increase over October when there were 9,165 active applicants. The number of job openings received were 1,473 for November, down 313 from 1,786 in October. Both the increase in the number of active applicants and the decrease in the number of job openings received over the same month a year ago are in line with predictions of a softening in the economy. If the predictions of some real estate and construction developers is fulfilled, growth will increase in New Hampshire in the early 1990's as the development of the Dartmouth-Hanover medical complex gets underway and new construction starts and increased real estate activity are concentrated in educational and institutional building and highway, sewer, and water improvements. This positive scenario, however, leans heavily on business continuing to move in from outside the state and on the Seabrook issue being resolved in such a manner that businesses are not saddled with considerably higher energy rates.

The total number of active applicants in all local offices increased by 35 percent between November 1987 and November 1988 (6,652 to 10,177). When comparing November 1988 with the previous month, construction trades active applicants constituted the largest increase in number of any occupational group, in large part due to seasonal fluctuation in the construction industry. However, the seventy-five percent increase in construction trades active applicants between November 1987 (1,008) and November 1988 (1,758) is indicative of more than seasonal trends. The increase in this applicant category reinforces forecasts of a housing slowdown and a general slackening of the state economy. The professional, technical and managerial applicants group and clerical applicants group each registered an increase of 156 between October and November of this year, compared to increases of 18 and 51 respectively over the same period last year. The number of services active applicants increased from the previous month in Laconia (+27) and Littleton (+24), as expected, due to the ending of the tourist season. Compared to levels of a year earlier in this category, both Laconia and Littleton showed an increase; Laconia registered 50 additional services applicants (up from 77 to 128), while Littleton increased by 12 (up from 113 to 125) over the previous year. Packaging and material handling recorded an increase of 68 applicants over the previous month and motor freight and transportation increased by 60 applicants; over the same time span a year earlier, applicants in each category increased by 16 and 10, respectively.

The number of job openings received decreased 313 from October levels (1,786), while a year ago there was a decrease of 561 job openings received between October (2,254) and November (1,693). Manchester local office job openings (342 in October to 222 in November) and Berlin job openings (140 in October to 82 in November) both showed declines similar to last year. However, Portsmouth registered an increase from October to November this year (from 132 in October to 174 in November), while experiencing a decrease between those two months in 1987 (from 203 to 174). The Littleton and Conway local offices exhibited patterns like Portsmouth, with increases in job openings in 1988 and decreases in 1987. Littleton went from 71 openings received in October to 93 in November this year, compared to 128 in October and 54 in November last year. Conway rose from 26 to 34 openings received this year, compared to a decline from 121 in October to 24 in November last year. Concord and Nashua each had fewer job openings received in November compared to November 1987, with the decreases occurring in clerical, services, and structural occupations in Concord, and in clerical, services, and machine trades occupations in Nashua.

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ACTIVE APPLICANTS BY OCCUPATION, NOVEMBER 1988

Area	Professional, Technical, & Managerial	Clerical	Sales	Services	Farm	Processing	Machine Trades	Benchwork	Structural Work	Freight & Transportation	Packaging & Material Handling	Miscellaneous	Total
New Hampshire	2,067	1,984	550	1,399	109	110	644	614	1,758	376	492	74	10,177
Berlin	33	68	21	70	3	1	29	9	109	24	17	4	388
Claremont	76	99	21	71	6	4	51	32	69	20	44	4	497
Concord	301	210	41	115	21	7	83	65	187	40	34	12	1,116
Conway	24	28	10	33	4	0	13	2	31	9	3	0	157
Dover	232	278	68	148	17	31	96	114	254	36	29	6	1,309
Keene	134	126	75	109	6	4	55	49	104	28	46	3	739
Laconia	127	165	41	128	8	6	59	43	176	46	34	1	834
Lebanon	88	49	13	33	5	1	14	13	47	7	10	1	281
Littleton	51	110	27	125	8	4	30	19	94	17	8	3	496
Manchester	225	298	91	248	10	14	94	95	271	58	103	24	1,531
Nashua	349	264	65	139	8	23	64	113	144	35	96	10	1,310
Portsmouth	314	215	50	152	9	13	42	31	222	44	60	2	1,154
Salem	113	74	27	28	4	2	14	29	50	12	8	4	365

Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System - Table A96

JOB OPENINGS RECEIVED BY OCCUPATION, NOVEMBER 1988

Area	Professional, Technical, & Managerial	Clerical	Sales	Services	Farm	Processing	Machine Trades	Benchwork	Structural Work	Motor Freight & Transportation	Packaging & Material Handling	Miscellaneous	Total
New Hampshire	103	302	124	232	23	30	134	128	202	70	110	16	1,473
Berlin	2	13	18	9	1	0	1	3	9	2	2	0	82
Claremont	4	14	1	17	0	3	18	30	19	9	6	2	123
Concord	13	18	2	15	6	1	9	3	19	6	5	4	101
Conway	1	8	6	8	0	0	1	1	6	0	3	0	34
Dover	6	15	8	14	0	6	15	28	32	9	9	2	144
Keene	7	22	7	25	2	3	23	5	20	3	7	0	124
Laconia	4	2	7	31	0	0	8	15	12	5	6	0	117
Lebanon	8	18	5	4	0	0	8	1	7	3	6	1	61
Littleton	1	18	3	26	4	2	10	7	14	2	3	3	93
Manchester	12	54	22	42	0	10	25	16	22	4	14	1	222
Nashua	8	15	7	12	3	2	5	8	10	10	8	1	89
Portsmouth	11	56	10	18	5	1	7	5	29	16	16	0	174
Salem	7	19	28	9	0	1	4	6	3	1	3	1	82
All Others	19	3	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	27

Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System - Table 10

ACTIVE APPLICANTS BY SEX, AGE, MINORITY STATUS, AND VETERAN STATUS, NOVEMBER 1988

Area	Male	Female	Eligible Claimants	Minority	Veterans	Age<45	Age >45	Total Active Applicants	Unfilled Openings: Total	Unfilled Openings: 30 Days+
New Hampshire	5,809	4,368	3,453	332	2,091	8,220	1,957	10,177	1,828	1,233
Berlin	224	164	112	6	70	315	73	388	104	59
Claremont	277	220	73	7	80	419	78	497	101	62
Concord	646	470	454	28	251	892	224	1,116	139	89
Conway	103	54	59	0	35	124	33	157	44	34
Dover	733	576	453	28	292	1,064	245	1,309	162	121
Keene	435	304	183	11	197	571	168	739	155	96
Laconia	509	325	277	7	124	684	150	834	156	114
Lebanon	186	95	62	7	74	220	61	281	52	26
Littleton	242	254	127	3	54	409	87	496	70	38
Manchester	831	700	566	76	272	1,271	260	1,531	170	64
Nashua	738	572	595	99	261	1,029	281	1,310	115	72
Portsmouth	687	467	313	50	303	952	202	1,154	203	156
Salem	198	167	179	10	78	270	95	365	137	106
All Others									220	196

Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System - Table A96

JOB OPENINGS RECEIVED BY INDUSTRY, NOVEMBER 1988

Area	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Construction & Mining	Manufacturing	Transportation, Communication & Utilities	Trade	Finance Insurance, Real Estate	Services	Public Administration	Total	Government Openings in Columns 1-8*
New Hampshire	18	183	417	69	333	60	349	44	1,473	86
Berlin	0	9	9	22	21	4	16	1	82	2
Claremont	0	17	61	3	21	7	14	0	123	2
Concord	4	19	22	6	9	3	17	21	101	16
Conway	0	5	3	0	18	2	5	1	34	0
Dover	1	14	63	3	25	2	36	0	144	21
Keene	1	13	39	2	27	7	34	1	124	0
Laconia	0	14	35	6	28	12	22	0	117	7
Lebanon	2	7	13	1	18	2	17	1	61	1
Littleton	1	12	23	1	12	5	36	3	93	3
Manchester	0	25	54	11	48	6	74	4	222	5
Nashua	1	11	20	7	29	4	16	1	89	1
Portsmouth	7	30	53	6	36	3	33	6	174	15
Salem	0	6	18	1	38	3	15	1	82	1
All Others	1	1	4	0	3	0	14	4	27	12

Source: Employment Security Automated Reporting System - Table 10

* *This column includes Job Openings received from government-owned-and-operated employers in all types of industries. It consists of numbers that are included in the first eight columns.*

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, NOVEMBER 1988

	1988	1987	1986	1985
1982-84=100				
All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)				
November Index	120.3	115.4	110.4	109.0
Percent Change From Previous November	4.2	4.5	1.3	3.5
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)				
November Index	119.0	114.3	109.2	108.3
Percent Change From Previous November	4.1	4.7	0.8	3.4
1967=100				
All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)				
November Index	360.5	345.8	330.8	326.6
Percent Change From Previous November	4.3	4.5	1.3	3.6
Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)				
November Index	354.6	340.4	325.4	322.6
Percent Change From Previous November	4.2	4.6	0.9	3.4

Note: *This table was introduced in the August issue. In prior issues we had shown the calendar year averages for each of the preceding three years along with the current month's indicies. This new table shows the indicies for the current month and those for the same month in each of the three previous years. This enables you to compare changes in the CPI indicies over four twelve-month periods.*

NOVEMBER CPI INDEXES BY CATEGORY

(1982-84=100, except where otherwise noted)

Categories	CPI-U November Index	Unadjusted Percent Change from: November 1987	October 1988	CPI-W November Index
All Items	120.3	4.2	0.1	119.0
All Items (1967=100)	360.5	4.3	0.1	354.6
Food and Beverages	120.2	5.2	-0.1	119.9
Housing	119.9	3.8	0.0	118.3
Apparel and Upkeep	119.9	3.9	-0.7	119.5
Transportation	110.7	2.7	0.6	110.3
Medical Care	141.8	6.8	0.4	142.2
Entertainment	122.2	4.2	0.3	121.7
Other Goods and Services	141.0	7.0	0.3	140.3

Source: United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

WEEKLY CLAIMS FILED DURING NOVEMBER
CLASSIFIED BY LOCAL OFFICE

Area	U. C. Unemployment Compensation		State Workers (Only)		U. C. Local Government		Ex-Military Servicemen (UCX Only)		U.C. Federal Employees No U.I.	
	Initial Claims	Continued Claims	Initial Claims	Continued Claims	Initial Claims	Continued Claims	Initial Claims	Continued Claims	Initial Claims	Continued Claims
All Offices	2,743	7,712	13	41	1	10	16	22	11	17
Berlin	156	451	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	0
Claremont	116	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Concord	228	678	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conway	79	313	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dover	329	793	0	2	0	0	4	1	2	5
Keene	93	270	0	9	0	3	0	0	0	0
Laconia	254	534	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Lebanon	43	121	1	5	0	0	1	0	0	0
Littleton	151	611	10	15	0	2	1	0	0	3
Manchester	542	1,162	1	3	0	1	1	3	1	2
Nashua	280	925	0	3	0	0	0	2	1	0
Portsmouth	201	527	0	3	0	0	4	7	6	7
Salem	108	279	0	0	0	4	2	3	0	0
Liable Interstate	163	848	0	1	1	0	0	4	1	0

The average payment for a week of total unemployment: $127.85

The Unemployment Compensation Fund Balance at the End of the Month: $181,306,253.12

Net contributions received during the month: $94,759.32

Net benefits paid during the month: $788,629.60

Interest Received: $0.00